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DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers. Published by Ralph F. Cummings, Box 75, Fisherville, Mass., U. S. A.

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The above picture was taken from a bronze tablet to the memory of Gilbert Patton, better known as Burt L. Standish of Dime and Nickel Novel fame. It has been sent up to Camden, Maine, to be placed on the walls at the Business Men's Association.

We thank all who have contributed towards this fine memorial, also Bro. Henderson for giving us the idea and forms.

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REMINISCENCES IN NOVELANIA PAST AND PRESENT

No. 1

by W. M. Burns

(Writers Note: The purpose of these brief little sketches is to present to readers of "Roundup" little scenes in reading and collecting novels, story papers and books, both in the past and present. Little scenes, thoughts and reactions, not worthy of being written into an article, but perhaps would be enjoyed by the many collectors who have gone through similar "chills and thrills" in bygone, and recent years. If you want more of the same write the publisher. The writer is always willing to oblige. Future articles depend on you, as readers.)

Early in life I developed an unusual love for reading. In fact as early as eight years old I was really reading nearly everything that came my way. And as a back country lad, not any too much came my way. Rural papers such as Comfort, Hearthstone, Family Story Paper occasionally came my way. Also a few books of the "Rolls" type. And now and then a dime novel or two.

At the age of 10-11 I had read a copy or two of most everything put out previously in black and whites by Beadle, Tousey, Munro, etc. Even had read a few of Tip Top and Nick Carter as they appeared then in colored covers.

But the large size Touseys in their really brilliant colored covers had not yet come my way.

One day, my mother saw fit to go to a town some 20 or more miles away, and allowed me to accompany her. This town was on the railroad and so had up to date novels for sale. As today, with magazines, there was the usual window display of novels. And I was not long in getting mother into

the first store I saw with novels on display. While mother knew that I had read many a dime novel, still she was not wholly in sympathy with my idea. Yet knowing my avid love for reading, and the little reading that I had (at that time none whatever,) she finally gave in to my request and stated positively, before we entered the store, that she would permit me to spend one dime only. But those vividly colored cover Touseys were something new to me. On entering the store there they were on display under glass counters. Tip Top, Nick Carter, Diamond Dick, Secret Service, Work and Win, Pluck and Luck, etc.

It was hard, very hard to choose from the huge stacks of novels. Finally I selected a very early issue of Wild West Weekly, just what number I am unable to recall at this late date, but it was below #10 I feel sure. Next I selected #1 of Frank Reade Weekly Magazine. (All this was early winter of 1902). I know it was #1, as I distinctly recall the title, "Frank Reade, Jr., White Cruiser of the Clouds; or, The Search for the Dog Faced Men," by "Ncname."

I had spent mothers promised dime and was about to leave the store when the clerk drew my attention to another one. This was Pluck and Luck #233 "Custers Last Shot; or, The Boy Traitor of the Little Horn," by An Old Scout. Mother had to part with another nickel, before she could persuade me to leave the store.

From the early age in which I started to read, I was, and still am, an avid lover of Indian stories. So naturally, I read the Pluck and Luck first. And was it a dandy tale. While I enjoyed the other two novels greatly, still "Custers Last Shot" was the favorite of the three items.

I read Wild West Weekly for many a year afterward. Also a lot of Frank Reade Weekly Magazine. But never again did I ever run across that Pluck and Luck edition of "Custers Last Shot." The first Pluck and Luck that I ever read. But I have the tale in the earlier Wide Awake Library edition, but still it does not satisfy me. I want it as I first met it, in the brilliantly colored cover edition of Pluck and Luck #233.

Mention the Dime Novel Roundup when you write advertisers—thanks!

NEWSY NEWS

by Ralph F. Cummings

It has been called to my attention, that the Roundup doesn't reach the far-away readers until several weeks after mailing. On account of the high cost of printing, etc., it doesn't permit me to send them by first class mail, but if any of the members want their copy sent first class, I will be very glad to oblige, if they will send in eighteen cents worth of one cent stamps, which is the difference between the 1½ cent stamp used, and the three that is necessary for first class delivery. Several of the members have sent in stamped envelopes, also stamps.

Audrey Edgerton, 116 W. 6th Ave., Houston, Texas, that he has been sick a long time, and still is. He says Lou Kohrt has dropped in to see him several times. Won't some of them write and help cheer our unfortunate member up?

Two men were talking together in the public Library, said one: "The Dime Novel has gone. I wonder what's become of it?" The other, who knew something of literature in the various phases, answered cynically: "It's gone to two dollars and fifty cents." — The Office Cat.

Peter W. Seiter of Chicago, says back in '98 he used to love to read the Frank Reade's and Jack Wright's. He said it makes him wish he was with Frank Reade racing over the prairies in the new Steam Man! He says he knows it would be pretty hot in the summer time, especially with that steam boiler in front, and also pretty rough going on steel rimmed wheels!

Charles Duprez and wife visited Ray Caldwell and wife Nov. 16th.

Joseph G. Bernhard lost his dear mother last summer. We all send in our sincere sympathy Pard, on your loss.

Floyd Beagle had a very nice one column writeup in the Knickerbocker News, in June 27, '47. He saved a mother and two children from drowning by pulling them into his rowboat. He also had a fine writeup on novels too. He runs a printing and art shop at 1 Columbia Pl., Albany.

Geo. French said, on Thursday evening, Oct. 23rd, 1947, he wouldn't have bet a nickel that any of them around his summer home, in Kezar

Falls, Maine, would be praising the Lord next day for having spared their homes. From George's yard, he could see the fiery glow of five different monstrous forest fires gradually coming nearer. The smoke all day had been so dense twas like a dark day, and the winds howled incessantly. The nearest danger then was but 4½ miles from his door. His car was just coated with burned leaves. George will never forget this fire as long as he lives.

P. J. Moran, while enroute home through New Mexico from a visit with friend Cummings and others up this way, didn't have so good luck, for his book-house was burned, and he has lost a lot of old timers, with what was burned up, and others water-soaked. Pat doesn't know the amount of his loss as yet. Bill Erbe also had about the same experience, when the tailor shop in under him was afire, and it came up through into his apartment. He says between fire, water, smoke, and firemen walking all over his old timers, was enough to disgust anyone.

We also want to thank our printer, Harlan W. Miller of Miller Print Shop Lawrence, Kansas, for their untiring efforts trying to bring the Roundup out on time. They have done a wonderful job, and we all thank you from the bottom of our hearts up, and will hope it always continues the same, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you and all the members too, from ye editor and President of H. H. Bro. Ralph F. Cummings, Reckless Ralph.

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 Joe Gantner, passed away April 3rd
 Thomas W. Baker, passed away April 3rd
 Charles H. Austin, passed away May 15th
 W. C. Miller, passed away June 22nd
 F. N. Wearing, passed away July 9th
 C. A. Hyatt, passed away Aug. 16th

PARTIAL LIST OF 1947 H. H. BRO. MEMBERS

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7. Wm. M. Burns, 15 Cottage St., Rockland, Maine.
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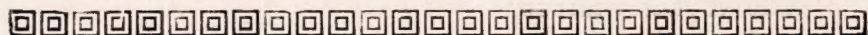
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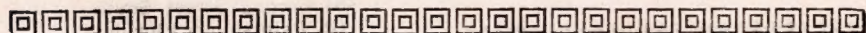
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